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[CLAIMS]

1. Method of assessing the quality of the recording characteristics
5 of a hard copy recorder comprising the steps of
 - retrieving from a memory a digital signal representation of a test image,
 - controlling the recorder to generate a hard copy of said test image corresponding with said digital signal representation,
 - 10 - performing at least one density measurement on the hard copy of said test image by means of a densitometer part of said recorder,
 - generating a digital quality report of said hard copy recorder, said quality report comprising at least the results of said density measurement,
 - 15 - storing said quality report.
2. Method according to claim 1 wherein said digital quality report comprises data identifying the date of the measurement.
- 20 3. Method according to claim 1 wherein a hard copy of said quality report is generated by means of said hard copy recorder.
4. A hard copy recorder comprising
 - a memory wherein a digital signal representation of a test
25 image is stored,
 - means for controlling said recorder to generate a hard copy corresponding with the digital signal representation of said test image on a recording material,
 - a densitometer part of said recorder arranged for performing at
30 least one density measurement on said test image,
 - means for generating a digital quality report of said hard copy recorder, said quality report at least comprising the results of said density measurement,
 - means for storing said digital quality report.

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5. A hard copy recorder according to claim 4 arranged for generating a hard copy of said quality report.

6. A thermal hard copy recorder according to claim 4.

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7. A thermal hard copy recorder according to claim 5.

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